

CD/PV.104
10 February 1981
ENGLISH

FINAL RECORD OF THE ONE HUNDRED AND FOURTH MEETING

held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva,
on Tuesday, 10 February 1981, at 3.30 p.m.

Chairman: Mr. F. de la Gorce (France)

PRESENT AT THE TABLE

Algeria: Mr. A. MATTI

Argentina: Miss N. FREYRE PENABAD

Australia: Mr. R. STEELE
Mr. T. FINDLAY

Belgium: Mr. A. ONKELINX
Mr. J.-M. NOIRFALISSE
Miss L. VAN DEN BERGH

Brazil: Mr. C.A. DE SOUZA E SILVA
Mr. S. DE QUEIROZ DUARTE

Bulgaria: Mr. P. VOUTOV
Mr. R. DEYANOV
Mr. I. SOTIROV

Burma: U THAN HTUN

Canada: Mr. D.S. McPHAIL
Mr. G. SKINNER
Mr. B. THACKER

China: Mr. LIANG Yufen
Mr. YU Mengjia
Mrs. WANG Zhiyun

Cuba: Mr. L. SOLA VILA
Mrs. V. BOROWDOSKY JACKIEWICH

Czechoslovakia: Mr. P. LUKES
Mr. A. CIMA
Mr. L. STAVINOHÁ

Egypt: Mr. I.A. HASSAN
Mr. M.N. FAHMY

Ethiopia:

Mr. T. TERREFFE
Mr. F. YOHANNES

France:

Mr. F. DE LA GORCE
Mr. J. DE BLAUSSE
Mr. M. COUTHURES

German Democratic Republic:

Mr. G. HERDER
Mr. H. THIELICKE
Mr. M. KAULFUSS
Mr. P. BÜNTIG

Germany, Federal Republic of:

Mr. G. PFEIFFER
Mr. H. MÜLLER
Mr. W. RÖHR

Hungary:

Mr. C. GYORFFY

India:

Mr. S. SARAN

Indonesia:

Mr. S. DARUSMAN
Mr. KARYONO

Iran:

Italy:

Mr. A. CIARRAPICO
Mr. B. CABRAS
Mr. E. DI GIOVANNI

Japan:

Mr. Y. OKIWA
Mr. R. ISHII
Mr. K. SHIMADA

Kenya:

Mr. S. SHITEMI
Mr. G.N. MUNIU

Mexico:

Mr. A. GARCIA ROBLES
Mr. A. CACERES

Mongolia: Mr. D. ERDEMBILEG

Morocco: Mr. M. CHRAIBI

Netherlands: Mr. H. WAGENMAKERS

Nigeria: Mr. W.O. AKINSANYA
Mr. T. AGUIYI-IRONSI

Pakistan: Mr. M. AKF

Peru: Mr. F. VALDIVIESO
Mr. A. DE SOTO
Mr. A. THORNBERRY

Poland: Mr. J. CIALOWICZ

Romania: Mr. O. IONESCU
Mr. T. MELESCANU

Sri Lanka: Mr. H.M.G.S. PALIHAKKARA

Sweden: Mr. C. LIDGARD

Union of Soviet Socialist Republics: Mr. B.P. PROKOFIEV
Mr. L.A. NAUMOV
Mr. Y.V. KOSTENKO

United Kingdom: Mr. D.M. SUMMERHAYES

United States of America: Mr. C.C. FLOWERREE
Ms. K. CRITTENBERGER
Mr. J.A. MISKEL
Mr. H. WILSON

Venezuela: Mr. A.R. TAYLHARDAT
Mr. O.A. AGUILAR

Yugoslavia:

Mr. B. BRANKOVIC

Zaire:

Mr. L.B. NDAGA

Mr. O. GNOK

Secretary of the Committee
and Personal Representative
of the Secretary-General:

Mr. R. JAIPAL

Deputy Secretary of the
Committee:

Mr. V. BERASATEGUI

The CHAIRMAN (translated from French): I declare open the 104th plenary meeting of the Committee on Disarmament. I propose that the Committee should now examine Working Paper No. 21/Rev.2 which, in conformity with the rules of procedure, contains the Chairman's recommendations concerning the provisional agenda and the programme of work of the Committee. Before we take a decision on this document I should like to make the following statement, with the contents of which you are already familiar and which has to accompany the adoption of the agenda. It is understood that the question of the non-stationing of nuclear weapons on the territories of States where there are no such weapons at present can be considered under item 2 of the Committee's agenda "Cessation of the nuclear arms race and nuclear disarmament". It is also understood that the report of the Committee, item 7 of the agenda, will deal, inter alia, with the question of a consideration of the modalities of the review of the membership of the Committee, mentioned in General Assembly resolution 35/156 I. I draw the Committee's attention to the fact that organizational questions are not mentioned in the programme of work, in compliance with the Committee's wish that these questions, and in particular the question of amendments to section IX of the rules of procedure, should be dealt with at informal meetings.

If there are no objections, I take it that the Committee decides to adopt Working Paper No. 21/Rev.2. There are no objections.

It was so decided.

Mr. ONKELINX (Belgium) (translated from French): I intend to make a general statement in the debate at one of our forthcoming meetings, but I am grateful to you for giving me the floor today for a very brief intervention.

First of all I should like to say that I am particularly happy that the Committee should have been able to adopt its agenda and its programme of work so rapidly, and I think it is no exaggeration to say that you deserve most of the credit for this.

This morning, our Romanian colleague, in speaking of you, referred to Monsieur de Callières, but it seems to me that I discern a difference of method between Monsieur de Callières and yourself. From the quotation which our Romanian friend included in his speech, Monsieur de Callières appeared to aim at long-term success. You, however, it seems to me, are for pressing on in the pursuit of immediate success, for which the Committee should be very grateful to you. My delegation did not want to complicate the discussion on the agenda for this session by expressing preferences or suggesting new additions, but I should like the Committee to bear in mind, particularly when considering agenda item 6, "Comprehensive programme of disarmament", the possibilities which a regional approach to disarmament problems can offer. As we all know, resolution 35/156 D, on the study on all the aspects of regional disarmament, was adopted by consensus at the last session of the General Assembly, and the United Nations Secretary-General has drawn our attention to this text, which is reproduced in document CD/140. For the present, Governments are invited to make known their views regarding the study on this subject which has been prepared by experts during the past few years, and the subject is to be taken up again at the next session of the General Assembly in

(Mr. Onkelinx, Belgium)

New York. We hope that between now and the special session of the General Assembly to be held in 1982, the subject of a regional approach will receive maximum attention and will form the subject of discussions, exchanges of views and careful thought. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to make this brief statement.

The CHAIRMAN (translated from French): I thank Ambassador Onkelinx for his statement and for his friendly remarks. As for Monsieur de Callières, I think his advice goes for all of us; it is very simple. It amounts to this: take care not to tell lies early on, because afterwards no one will trust you. I believe that this goes also for the Committee on Disarmament, where everyone strictly observes the rule of the most absolute sincerity.

Mr. McPHAIL (Canada): Mr. Chairman, in the same vein as my Belgian colleague, I want to make two very brief observations with respect to the draft provisional agenda which has been adopted. You stated the understanding of the Committee with respect to the fact that under item 7 we will in due course be considering the question of the review of its membership.

I would simply like to point to the fact that this inclusion within the concept of agenda item 7 does not, I am certain, mean that there will be a delay in tackling that problem. I would therefore reserve the right to revert to this question in accordance with the rules of procedure, at any appropriate time during our plenary debates and, in due course perhaps, after some informal discussions.

Furthermore, the agenda that we have before us does not contain a separate item with respect to a very important matter, "Verification". It is, however, something that is dealt with in the decalogue, under item 9. In accordance with the rules of procedure, I would like to point out that at an appropriate moment in plenary, and under the rules of procedure, we would like to touch upon this subject.

The CHAIRMAN (translated from French): I should now like to consider, with you, the question of the participation of non-member States. At an informal meeting we considered the requests submitted on behalf of some of those States regarding their participation in the Committee's work this year. In accordance with the established practice, I propose to submit to you, one after the other, in chronological order, the requests on which there was a consensus in the Committee. The secretariat has circulated the draft decisions, which are placed before you. You will find them in Working Papers Nos. 23-27.

(The Chairman)

The first request is submitted on behalf of Finland, and the corresponding draft decision is contained in Working Paper No. 23. 1/ If there are no objections, I will take it that the draft decision is adopted. There are no objections.

It was so decided.

The second request is submitted on behalf of Denmark, and the corresponding draft decision is contained in Working Paper No. 24. 2/ If there are no objections, I will take it that the draft decision is adopted. There are no objections.

It was so decided.

1/ "In response to the request of Finland [CD/145] and in accordance with rules 33 to 35 of its rules of procedure, the Committee decides to invite the representative of Finland to participate during 1981 in the discussions on the substantive items on the agenda at plenary and informal meetings of the Committee, as well as in the meetings of the ad hoc working group on the comprehensive programme of disarmament."

"With reference to the agenda of the Committee for the 1981 session and the programme of work for the first part of its session, the representative of Finland is invited to indicate in due course the particular concerns of Finland."

"Participation in meetings of the Committee's other subsidiary bodies will be decided later when those bodies have been established."

2/ "In response to the request of Denmark [CD/146] and in accordance with rules 33 to 35 of its rules of procedure, the Committee decides to invite the representative of Denmark to participate during 1981 in the discussions on the substantive items on the agenda at plenary and informal meetings of the Committee, as well as in the meetings of the ad hoc working group on the comprehensive programme of disarmament."

"With reference to the agenda of the Committee for the 1981 session and the programme of work for the first part of its session, the representative of Denmark is invited to indicate in due course the particular concerns of Denmark."

"Participation in meetings of the Committee's other subsidiary bodies will be decided later when those bodies have been established."

(The Chairman)

The third request is submitted on behalf of Spain, and the corresponding draft decision is contained in Working Paper No. 25. 3/ If there are no objections, I will take it that the draft decision is adopted. There are no objections.

It was so decided.

The fourth request is submitted on behalf of Austria, and the corresponding draft decision is contained in Working Paper No. 26. 4/ If there are no objections, I will take it that the draft decision is adopted. There are no objections.

It was so decided.

3/ "In response to the request of Spain [CD/147] and in accordance with rules 33 to 35 of its rules of procedure, the Committee decides to invite the representative of Spain to participate during 1981 in the discussions on the substantive items on the agenda at plenary and informal meetings of the Committee, as well as in the meetings of the ad hoc working group on the comprehensive programme of disarmament."

"With reference to the agenda of the Committee for the 1981 session and the programme of work for the first part of its session, the representative of Spain is invited to indicate in due course the particular concerns of Spain."

"Participation in meetings of the Committee's other subsidiary bodies will be decided later when those bodies have been established."

4/ "In response to the request of Austria [CD/148] and in accordance with rules 33 to 35 of its rules of procedure, the Committee decides to invite the representative of Austria to participate during 1981 in the discussions on the substantive items on the agenda at plenary and informal meetings of the Committee, as well as in the meetings of the ad hoc working group on the comprehensive programme of disarmament."

"With reference to the agenda of the Committee for the 1981 session and the programme of work for the first part of its session, the representative of Austria is invited to indicate in due course the particular concerns of Austria."

"Participation in meetings of the Committee's other subsidiary bodies will be decided later when those bodies have been established."

(The Chairman)

The fifth request is submitted on behalf of Norway, and the corresponding draft decision is contained in Working Paper No. 27. ^{5/} If there are no objections, I will take it that the draft decision is adopted. There are no objections.

It was so decided.

Two other requests have been submitted, the one on behalf of Democratic Kampuchea and the other on behalf of the People's Republic of Kampuchea. I would remind you, for the record, that on this point there was no consensus in the Committee.

Mr. AKRAM (Pakistan): Mr. Chairman, my delegation is most satisfied that the Committee has been able to approve the requests for participation from five States not members of this Committee, and we would like to extend our welcome to these States when they join in the work of the Committee.

However, Sir, in your concluding remarks you mentioned that there were two other requests for participation: that from Democratic Kampuchea and another from an entity which is not recognized by the United Nations, the so-called People's Republic of Kampuchea.

It was the hope of my delegation that the Committee, in its plenary session, would not have to introduce that subject, since it was discussed at length in the informal meetings of the Committee. But, since it has been mentioned, as you said, for the record, I would like to state on behalf of my delegation, and for the record, that, as far as we are concerned, there is no such entity as the People's Republic of Kampuchea and that this Committee, as an affiliate of the United Nations, is not empowered to consider or contemplate any communication from that entity.

At the same time, I would also like to express the regret of my delegation that the delegation of a Member State of the United Nations, Democratic Kampuchea, has been prevented from participating in the work of this body because of positions taken by certain of the members of this Committee.

^{5/} "In response to the request of Norway [CD/149] and in accordance with rules 33 to 35 of its rules of procedure, the Committee decides to invite the representative of Norway to participate during 1981 in the discussions on the substantive items on the agenda at Plenary and informal meetings of the Committee, as well as in the meetings of the ad hoc working group on the comprehensive programme of disarmament."

"With reference to the agenda of the Committee for the 1981 session and the programme of work for the first part of its session, the representative of Norway is invited to indicate in due course the particular concerns of Norway."

"Participation in meetings of the Committee's other subsidiary bodies will be decided later when those bodies have been established."

Mr. ERDEMBILEG (Mongolia) (translated from Russian): Mr. Chairman, the Mongolian delegation intends shortly to make a statement at one of the Committee's plenary meetings, when I shall have the opportunity, on behalf of my delegation, to extend sincere greetings to you on your accession to the important and responsible post of Chairman of the Committee on Disarmament. The Mongolian delegation did not intend to speak today. However, a statement has just been made by a delegation which compels our delegation also to take the floor.

First of all, my delegation would like to welcome the granting of the requests of those countries which expressed a wish to participate in the work of our Committee. A similar decision was taken last year as well. As for the second part of your statement, the Mongolian delegation had no particular objections. However, I repeat that in connection with the statement just made by the distinguished representative of Pakistan, the Mongolian delegation deems it necessary to make the following statement.

The Mongolian People's Republic, as we have repeatedly declared, does not recognize so-called Democratic Kampuchea. We have most resolutely condemned and we still condemn the sanguinary régime of Pol Pot, who pursued a policy of genocide towards his own people. That Sanguinary régime was liquidated by the Kampuchean people themselves. And there now exists the People's Republic of Kampuchea, with its capital at Phnom-Penh, which has been recognized by many States Members of the United Nations. The time will come when the United Nations will recognize the only lawful representative of the people of Kampuchea -- the State which is called the People's Republic of Kampuchea. And we regret that on this occasion the Committee has failed to reach consensus on the request from the People's Republic of Kampuchea.

Mr. HERDER (German Democratic Republic): Mr. Chairman, the question of disarmament is, without any doubt, of vital interest to all States. Therefore, the German Democratic Republic supports the participation of non-members in the work of the Committee on Disarmament.

We would like to welcome the representatives of Finland, Denmark, Spain, Austria and Norway. By supporting their requests we are convinced that these States will effectively contribute to the work of the Committee by participating actively in our negotiations on concrete items. At the same time, my delegation regrets very much that no consensus could be reached on the participation of the People's Republic of Kampuchea in the sessions of the Committee on Disarmament. My country maintains close and friendly relations with the People's Republic of Kampuchea, which is at present undertaking great efforts to reconstruct their country, devastated by the Pol Pot clique. The constructive policy of the People's Republic of Kampuchea is ever more recognized by other States throughout the world. At present it maintains diplomatic relations with more than 30 countries. We are confident that this situation will not last a long time and that other States also will officially recognize the true facts and establish diplomatic relations with the People's Republic of Kampuchea.

The German Democratic Republic regards the People's Republic of Kampuchea as the sole and legitimate representative of the people of Kampuchea, and accepts no other Kampuchea whatsoever.

Mr. PROKOFIEV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (translated from Russian):

Like the delegation of the German Democratic Republic, the delegation of the Soviet Union would like to welcome the decision to invite representatives of Finland, Denmark, Spain, Austria and Norway to participate in the work of the Committee on Disarmament in 1981. We regret that the Committee did not succeed in reaching consensus on the question of an invitation to representatives of the People's Republic of Kampuchea to take part in the work of the Committee on Disarmament. The people's revolutionary council of the People's Republic of Kampuchea is the only lawful and plenipotentiary representative of the Kampuchean people, and only its representatives can represent the People's Republic of Kampuchea in international organizations and in other international forums. We should like to state once more that references to the fact that the Government of the People's Republic of Kampuchea is not as yet recognized by the United Nations do not stand up to any criticism. We also resolutely reject the importunities of the criminal group of persons claiming to represent the non-existent so-called "Democratic Kampuchea" and demanding to participate in the work of the Committee.

Mr. VOUTOV (Bulgaria): Mr. Chairman, my delegation would like to join with others to sincerely welcome the invitation of the delegations of Finland, Denmark, Spain, Austria and Norway to participate in our work on disarmament. Here again is an example of the interest in disarmament of other countries not members of the Committee.

At the same time, I would like to express our deep regret that the People's Republic of Kampuchea has not been invited at this moment. I was not prepared to make a statement, but as another delegation has raised the question, I would like to read some excerpts which were published just three days ago, when we were discussing the question here.

This article is certainly not by a communist newspaper, but printed in the International Herald Tribune by the known journalist Iain Guest. It is entitled "Khmer Rouge: a Western Contradiction", and he has written here: "A vote for the Khmer Rouge in the United Nations is in effect a vote for genocide ... The Khmer Rouge were guilty of crimes against humanity. They should be tried on the charge, not cosseted by the international community." "The Khmer Rouge", says Guest, "abolished money, reneged on their international obligations, initiated the mass upheaval of peasants, attacked their neighbours and systematically killed off the middle class." The writer makes a comparison with Hitler, who "perished 35 years ago in the flames of the Third Reich", and says, "No such fate awaited his Cambodia counterparts, the Khmer Rouge. They are tucked up along the Thai border where they are given refuge by the Thai army, arms by the Chinese, and food and medical supplies by the international agencies." Mr. Guest writes only two very humble sentences about the representative of the People's Republic of Kampuchea but they speak for themselves: "Heng Samrin has encouraged a free economy and a return to the villages, and has allowed the sale of rice at market prices." Rice for Vietnamese, for Kampuchean, for people, means life. Life has returned to the People's Republic of Kampuchea after three million people have been killed. This, I would think, is a real judgement, as Iain Guest writes: "A vote for the Khmer Rouge in the United Nations is in effect a vote for genocide." Is it not time to think about a new Nuremberg, a place where this genocide should be tried?

Mr. LIANG Yufan (China) (translated from Chinese): Mr. Chairman, the Chinese delegation has studied the question of participation in this session by non-member States, and wishes to state its position. It is our view that in order to enable the Committee on Disarmament to benefit from a wide range of constructive proposals and views put forward by various countries, all the States Members of the United Nations as well as the States Members of the relevant specialized agencies, should be accorded the opportunity to participate in those meetings where topics of particular concern to them are being discussed. Proceeding from this basic consideration, we warmly welcome the participation of Finland, Denmark, Spain, Austria and Norway in the relevant meetings at this session of the Committee on Disarmament. This delegation is convinced that their participation will contribute to the work of our Committee.

At the same time, we cannot but express our regret at the fact that consensus has not been reached on the request of another State Member of the United Nations, namely, Democratic Kampuchea. As is well known, Democratic Kampuchea is the lawful Government representing the people of Kampuchea. The General Assembly of the United Nations has discussed this matter at successive sessions and unflinchingly affirmed it as a fact. Accordingly, the request made by Democratic Kampuchea is entirely lawful. Moreover, it has repeatedly expressed its wish to participate in the discussion on the question of the prohibition of chemical weapons, precisely as a victim of chemical warfare. This Committee should have approved its reasonable request and invited its participation in the discussions on relevant questions. But as a result of the repeated obstructions posed by certain countries, so far, consensus has not been reached on this matter.

The Chinese delegation opposes the discussion by our Committee of the request of the so-called "People's Republic of Kampuchea". It is necessary to point out that the Heng Samrin régime is entirely a puppet régime established and propped up single-handedly by foreign aggressors. It can never survive without the support of foreign troops. It has no right whatsoever to represent the people of Kampuchea. At both its thirty-fourth and its thirty-fifth sessions the United Nations General Assembly accepted the credentials presented by the delegation of Democratic Kampuchea, and with an overwhelming majority of votes adopted resolutions calling for the immediate withdrawal of foreign aggressive troops from Kampuchea. This is a clear reflection of the international community's just position of opposing foreign armed aggression and refusing to recognize the puppet régime imposed by military force on the people of Kampuchea. It is our demand that this Committee, as a forum directly affiliated with the United Nations General Assembly, should respect the relevant General Assembly resolutions and uphold United Nations purposes and principles by refusing to discuss and rejecting the request of this puppet régime which in no way represents the people of Kampuchea.

A few minutes ago, the representative of Bulgaria mentioned the so-called question of Hitler's crimes. As is well known, the main crime of Hitler was none other than armed aggression. Who is the aggressor in Kampuchea today? Who is carrying out armed occupation of a sovereign State? Who is the Hitler? Is it not amply clear what the answer will be?

Mr. AKRAI (Pakistan): Mr. Chairman, this unfortunate discussion, which, however, came about because of the reference to the so-called régime of People's Kampuchea, is something that my delegation would have wished to avoid. In any case, we think that this discussion has a certain sense of déjà vu, because we went over much of this ground last year. Nevertheless, certain statements have been made rather extensively on this question and my delegation feels the need to expand on its own position.

First of all, we believe that the Committee on Disarmament is a body which is affiliated with the United Nations General Assembly since, in our view, it was created as a result of a decision taken at the tenth special session of the General Assembly, which was devoted to disarmament.

Secondly, the Committee on Disarmament is not a Credentials Committee and for the orderly procedure of its work it must abide by the credentials which are approved by the General Assembly. If this were not to be the case, if the credentials of any delegation which is not recognized by another delegation on this Committee were to be cast into doubt, I think that the work of the Committee on Disarmament would become extremely complicated.

The Government of Democratic Kampuchea, whatever one's judgement about its record, is a government which is recognized by the majority of the States Members of the United Nations; its credentials are accepted by the United Nations General Assembly by overwhelming majorities, and its legal status has been recognized by the United Nations.

This Committee is not so empowered, nor can it in any way reopen the question of the credentials of Democratic Kampuchea. Much less can this Committee, by its actions, give any form of legitimacy to a régime whose credentials are rejected by the overwhelming majority of the international community, by the majority of the non-aligned States, by the majority of all the States in the world.

The so-called People's Republic of Kampuchea, Mr. Chairman, as has been stated, is a régime which is entirely a quisling régime, a "puppet" régime that has been installed by the force of 200,000 foreign troops in the capital of another country, the legitimate government having been ousted by those foreign troops.

If it is presented that this is the legal régime of the Kampuchean people, then the proof would be in the withdrawal of the 200,000 foreign troops. If that régime survives after the withdrawal of those foreign troops, then one could claim that it is a legitimate régime representing the people of Kampuchea.

If this Committee were to allow the consideration of a request from a régime such as this, what is the criterion that we would apply to other requests that we may receive for consideration? For instance, would we contemplate a request from the Turnhalle Alliance in Namibia for participation in the Committee on Disarmament? That is a régime installed by South Africa and it has sought recognition for the Turnhalle Alliance. Would we recognize a request from the régime in the Transkei of the Bantustan Land created by South Africa also?

(Mr. Akram, Pakistan)

These are some of the questions which arise as a result of this request which was purportedly received from the "puppet" régime in Phnom Phen. And it is because of these questions, these very weighty and important considerations, that my delegation believes that this Committee should in no way prejudice its standing and its integrity by giving in to such ploys on the part of certain States.

Mr. SOLA VILA (Cuba) (translated from Spanish): Mr. Chairman, I take this opportunity, on the occasion of our first intervention -- although I had not intended to speak this afternoon -- to congratulate you, not only on your appointment as Chairman of the Committee for this month, but more particularly on what you have accomplished in so few days. Our Committee, under your guidance and direction, and fired with your enthusiasm, has managed to agree on an agenda, a work programme and the participation of non-member States.

As regards the participation of non-member States, we are sure that the participation of Finland, Denmark, Spain, Austria and Norway will contribute to the advancement of our work in the Disarmament Committee. We welcome their participation, and we are sure that we shall be able to co-operate fully with them and they with us in achieving success in our activities.

However, you referred to two further requests: that of the People's Republic of Kampuchea and that of a self-styled Democratic Kampuchea. We should like to place it on record that, as far as we are concerned, the so-called Democratic Kampuchea does not exist. The State of Kampuchea, with its capital Phnom Phen and its constituted Government, its population and its territory, is the People's Republic of Kampuchea.

Mr. TERREFE (Ethiopia): Mr. Chairman, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate you briefly for assuming the Chair, in the hope that in the near future I will have more ample time to congratulate you and others on the occasion of their participation, as well as on the occasion of their arrival.

I did not intend to speak at this time, but was hoping that the wise decision that you made in achieving the participation of five non-members of this Committee would have led us to a rational solution. Unfortunately this does not seem to be the case, and for this reason I would like to state my delegation's position that, as regards the approval of requests from five countries for participation, namely, Finland, Denmark, Spain, Austria and Norway, my delegation is very pleased to welcome them and is sure that they will contribute to the discussion on appropriate topics at the time that they choose.

As far as the representation of Kampuchea is concerned, I think it is a matter of record that my Government recognizes, as the lawful and legitimate representation of Kampuchea, the People's Republic of Kampuchea.

Mr. McPHAIL (Canada): Mr. Chairman, how could one fail to join the many congratulations to the non-members who are to join in our work for the session? I have to say, however, that, while recognizing the great progress we have made in moving this question forward at such an early date in our session compared with a year ago, I am struck by the fact that all of the comments seem to emphasize another problem, one on which you were reporting no consensus.

We have a position on the question which has been debated, and I repeat "debated", in the last few minutes, but feel that it is inappropriate for such a debate to take place in a negotiating form such as the Committee on Disarmament. We accept that the consensus rule will, on occasions perhaps, go against what decisions there may have been in the United Nations General Assembly itself. But the problem which has been debated, if there is one, is a problem for the United Nations General Assembly and not for the Committee on Disarmament. I therefore ask that the record of the Committee show that the failure of the Canadian delegation to take part in this debate is not because we do not have a position on the matter which has been debated, nor because we subscribe to the views which have been put forward in this debate by any of the preceding speakers, but because it is a debate we believe should not have taken place.

Mr. BRANKOVIC (Yugoslavia): Mr. Chairman, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the delegations of Finland, Denmark, Spain, Austria and Norway as they are going to take part in the discussions in our Committee, and to express my delegation's deep satisfaction at this fact. We offer our full support and co-operation to those delegations, and would like to say that, in granting these applications, the Committee is fully implementing the relevant paragraphs of the Final Document of the first special session of the General Assembly on disarmament.

At the same time, I would like to express my delegation's deep dissatisfaction with the fact that we were not in a position to reach a consensus on the application of another State Member of the United Nations to take part in the negotiations in our Committee. Unfortunately, such proceedings do not follow the lines of the implementation of the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly.

Allow me to quote what my delegation said last year at one of the meetings when this problem was discussed and which was reflected in document CD/PV.74.

"In our opinion, we should immediately give a positive response to a request received from a State Member of the United Nations and accept its participation within the requested scope."

I do hope that in the very near future the Committee will be in a position to reach a consensus on the application made by one State Member of the United Nations, namely, Democratic Kampuchea.

Mr. SARAN (India): Mr. Chairman, we quite agree with the observation made by the distinguished Ambassador of Canada, that this debate should not have taken place at all. But the fact is that such a debate is taking place. We agree that the CD should be guided in its work by the United Nations General Assembly and that there is an integral link between the United Nations General Assembly and this body. However, we should recognize that this Committee has its own rules of procedure and that these rules of procedure have to be followed by us in all circumstances, including in relation to the question that we have been considering.

(Mr. Saran, India)

As you very rightly announced with respect to the question of the participation of some of the States, or so-called States, which have requested participation, there is no consensus.

The views of my delegation on this particular question are well known. I would really just like to reiterate at this point that the Government of India does not recognize the so-called régime of Democratic Kampuchea. In our view, the sole legal government of Kampuchea is that of the People's Republic of Kampuchea, headed by President Heng Samrin and only the representatives of this Government have the right to participate in the proceedings of this Committee.

Mr. GYORFFY (Hungary): Mr. Chairman, first of all I would like to join those delegations who congratulated you and the Committee on the speedy decision concerning the requests for participation by five States non-members of the Committee: Finland, Denmark, Spain, Austria and Norway. However, as far as the rest of the debate which has taken place here is concerned, my delegation would have preferred to avoid it. I would therefore like to express the disappointment of my delegation that such a debate has been provoked by certain delegations.

In view of the debate, however, I feel compelled to put on record the position of the Hungarian Government that the People's Republic of Kampuchea is the sole and lawful representative of the people of Kampuchea and to express the disappointment of the Hungarian delegation that the Committee could not come to a decision to respond positively to its request.

The sinful Pol Pot régime has been ousted by its own people, by the Kampuchean people; therefore it represents no one except itself.

The CHAIRMAN (translated from French): If no one else wishes to speak, I propose that the Committee should hold an informal meeting at 3 p.m. tomorrow to continue considering the question of the re-establishment of its ad hoc working groups.

Mr. GARCIA ROBLES (Mexico) (translated from Spanish): Mr. Chairman, my delegation did not intend to take part in this afternoon's deliberations, but in view of the debate which has just taken place, I am compelled to do so. I should like to begin by congratulating the delegations of Finland, Denmark, Spain, Austria and Norway and to express to all of them our pleasure and satisfaction at their presence among us, in accordance with the requests just approved by the Committee.

As you will recall, Mr. Chairman, since you mentioned it twice at our informal meetings, the Mexican delegation on 31 July 1980, as is noted in paragraph 17 of the Committee's report for last year, submitted a working paper contained in document CD/129, dated 29 July 1980, entitled "Working paper containing draft amendments to section IX of the rules of procedure of the Committee on Disarmament, entitled 'Participation by States not members of the Committee'."

My delegation was very glad to see that this year there appeared to be every reason to hope that there would be no repetition of the discussions which so often took up our time last year. What made us hope this was the fact that — for example, as we saw today, in a matter of five minutes we approved five requests. If

(Mr. Garcia Robles, Mexico)

this spirit were to prevail in the Committee, and if, neither at this spring session nor at the summer session, no further opportunity were to arise for a debate such as the one we have had during the second part of our meeting this afternoon, my delegation would not press for a discussion of its proposal for amendments, to which I have just referred. However, if such an occasion were to recur, then we would press for our proposal to be examined. That proposal neither had nor has any other purpose than to overcome, once and for all, the difficulties that may arise when there is controversy regarding the international representation of a State.

In this connection my delegation, as early as April 1980, devoted an entire intervention to explaining its point of view, and later, on 31 July, we again set forth our views, more briefly. In this connection, I repeat, my delegation believes that we must be realistic, and if we are realistic we must begin by recognizing that this Committee is a body sui generis and that, rightly or wrongly, its members do not, as far as credentials are concerned, recognize United Nations decisions as something which has the force of law for the Committee.

That being the situation, and since the Committee's decisions must be taken by consensus, my delegation continues to believe that the only way to overcome all these difficulties once and for all is to make the appropriate changes in our rules of procedure.

Obviously, the key words in the amendment we are proposing are those referring to cases where the international representation of a State is the subject of controversy. My delegation would prefer it if we could settle this matter without having to engage in a discussion that might be lengthy and which, I repeat, would involve the amendment of the rules of procedure; but if a discussion unfortunately proved necessary, my delegation would like to point out here and now to all the distinguished representatives in this Committee that those are the key words of the amendment, and that what would then be necessary, in this eventuality, would be to find an objective criterion for determining when the international representation of a State should be regarded as being the subject of controversy for the purposes of this Disarmament Committee. That would be the first thing.

The second is this: once we have defined the circumstances in which such a case exists or shall be deemed to exist, it will then be necessary also to define and establish an objective and fair procedure --an objective procedure that can be applied automatically and that will save us from losing time again in discussions which my delegation considers do not legitimately belong in a disarmament negotiating forum like this Committee.

The CHAIRMAN (translated from French): If there are no other speakers who would like to take the floor, I will repeat the proposal I made a few minutes ago, namely, that we should hold an informal meeting tomorrow at 3 p.m. to continue considering the question of the Committee's ad hoc working groups. I have been asked also to announce that the Group of 21 will meet here tomorrow at 10.30 a.m.

The meeting rose at 4.50 p.m.